Case 3:23-md-03084-CRB Document 2319-8 Filed 02/10/25 Page 1 of 18

Exhibit H

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP

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February 7, 2025

VIA MDL CENTRALITY, CERTIFIED MAIL, AND EMAIL

Re: MDL 3084 – Order re Withdrawal of Counsel in Case No. 3:24-CV-05768-CRB, MDLC ID 1924

Dear T.F.,

We write on behalf of our client, Uber Technologies Inc. ("Uber"), regarding *T.F.* v. *Uber Technologies, Inc., et al.*, 3:24-CV-05768-CRB, MDLC ID 1924, which you filed in *In re Uber Technologies, Inc. Passenger Sexual Assault Litigation*, 3:23-md-03084-CRB ("the MDL"). On January 13, 2025, Slater Slater Schulman LLP moved to withdraw its representation of you on the grounds that you have "failed to establish useful communication with Slater" for "many months." *T.F.*, No. 3:24-CV-05768-CRB, ECF 8 at 2 (Exhibit 1). On February 3, 2025, the Court granted that motion. *T.F.*, No. 3:24-CV-05768-CRB, ECF 9 at 1 (Exhibit 2). It is our understanding that you have not found replacement counsel and are no longer represented by an attorney. If that understanding is incorrect, please provide this communication to your attorney, and have your attorney contact us via the information provided above or below as soon as possible.

The Court's Order states that "Within 28 days of this order, [the] plaintiff shall file a notice indicating whether they intend to pursue the action with new counsel or representing themselves. If [the] plaintiff does not file that notice, the Court will dismiss their case without prejudice." Exhibit 2 at 1. The Court also ordered Uber's counsel to "provide a copy of this order to the plaintiff[]." *Id.* The Court's Order is attached to this correspondence as Exhibit 2. Per this Order, you must "file a notice indicating whether [you] intend to pursue the action with new counsel or representing [yourself]" within 28 days of February 3, 2025, i.e. by Monday, March 3, 2025, or else "the Court will dismiss [your] case without prejudice."

We ask that you please email us confirmation of your receipt of this letter, via email to ksmith@paulweiss.com, lmurray@paulweiss.com, and receipt of this letter, via email to ksmith@paulweiss.com, and receipt of this letter, via email to ksmith@paulweiss.com, and receipt of this letter, via email to ksmith@paulweiss.com, at your earliest opportunity. If you would like to discuss the letter's contents further, please let us know, and we would be happy to organize a meet and confer.

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP

T.F. 2

Sincerely,

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP

By: /s/ Kyle Smith

Kyle Smith 2001 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20006 (202) 223-7407 ksmith@paulweiss.com

EXHIBIT 1

1	I WITH (CARLAD N. 201012)	
1	Lauren Welling (CA State Bar No. 291813) <u>LWelling@sssfirm.com</u>	
2	Michael W. Carney (CA State Bar No. 241564) MCarney@sssfirm.com	
3	SLATER SLATER SCHULMAN LLP	
4	8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 255 Beverly Hills, CA 90211	
5	Telephone: (310) 341-2086 Facsimile: (310) 773-5573	
6	Attorneys for Plaintiff	
7		DICTRICT COURT
8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
9	SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION	
10	IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,	MDL No. 3084 CRB
11	PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT LITIGATION	NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO
12		WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF T.F.
13	This Document Relates to:	
		Honorable Charles R. Breyer
14	T.F. v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al; 3:24-cv-05768-CRB	
15		
16 17	NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL FOR <u>PLAINTIFF T.F.</u>	
18	TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR COUNSEL OF RECORD, PLEASE TAKE NOTICE	
19	that, as soon hereafter as the matter may be heard, Slater Slater Schulman LLP ("Slater"), counsel	
20	of record for Plaintiff, T.F. ("Plaintiff"), moves this Court for an order permitting its withdrawal	
21	as counsel for Plaintiff.	
22	This motion ("Motion") is made pursuant to Local Rule 11-5(a). The Notice of Motion &	
23	Motion is based on the below Memorandum in Support and the accompanying Declaration of	
24	Lauren A. Welling ("Decl."), attached hereto as Exhibit A. A Proposed Order is attached as	
25	Exhibit B.	
26	MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL	
27	Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 11-5(a) and California Rules of Professional Conduct	
28	1.16(b)(4) and 1.16(d), Slater submits this Memorandum of Law in support of its Motion to	

Withdraw as Counsel for Plaintiff. Slater should be permitted to withdraw as counsel for Plaintiff and respectfully requests this Court grant its Motion.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

An attorney may withdraw from a case by obtaining an order from the court after reasonable advance written notice has been provided to the client and to all other parties. *See* Civ. L.R. 11-5(a); *see also* Cal. Rules Prof. Conduct 1.16(d)(1).

Slater has been attempting to locate Plaintiff for over a year, including numerous correspondences, email communications, and telephone messages. Decl. ¶¶ 4(b-i). Slater has given Plaintiff appropriate advance notice of its intent to withdraw as counsel to Plaintiff beginning on December 13, 2024 and again on December 30, 2024, January 3, 2025, January 7, 2025 and January 10, 2025, while regularly attempting to locate and speak with Plaintiff for many months with only a few sporadic responses from Plaintiff. *Id.* Slater has also given Defendants advance notice. Decl. ¶ 4(f); Decl. ¶ 6. Slater has taken all possible steps to avoid any prejudice to Plaintiff by explaining to her the possible consequences of failing to maintain contact with Slater or to meet discovery deadlines. Decl. ¶¶ 4(b-i). Slater also submitted the limited information Slater did have and, upon receiving deficiencies due to not having critical information from Plaintiff, communicated with Defendants to set up Meet & Confer processes to address her case as it attempted to try to reach her. Decl. ¶ 4(d); Decl. ¶ 4(f). Despite those efforts, Plaintiff failed to establish useful communication with Slater. Slater has thus taken all reasonable steps to avoid foreseeable prejudice to Plaintiff. Decl. ¶ 8.

Under California Rule of Professional Conduct 1.16(b)(4), a lawyer may withdraw from a case if "the client ... renders it unreasonably difficult for the lawyer to carry out the representation effectively." Here, Plaintiff has rendered it unreasonably difficult for Slater to carry out its representation effectively by failing to communicate with Slater and failing to provide information required to prosecute her case, despite many requests from Slater. Decl. ¶¶ 4(a-j). Slater has been unable to sufficiently meet discovery deadlines in this case as the discovery responses, *i.e.* Plaintiff Fact Sheet, requires Plaintiff's input and verification. Moreover, pursuant to this Court's Order Resolving Dispute Regarding Obligations Under Pretrial Order No. 10 (Dkt.

1 1877), "will supplement" responses in a Plaintiff Fact Sheet are deficient. Slater submitted all 2 information available in the Plaintiff Fact Sheet, which still contained 35 questions with no 3 answer to the question presented or a "will supplement" response. Therefore, Plaintiff's conduct 4 falls into the express terms of Rule 1.16 regarding permissive withdrawal. 5 Because this motion is not accompanied by a substitution of counsel or an agreement by 6 Plaintiff to proceed *pro se*, Slater agrees to the condition imposed by Local Rule 11-5(b) to serve 7 Plaintiffs with all papers in this matter, unless or until Plaintiff appears pro se, other counsel 8 appears on Plaintiff's behalf, or upon further order of the Court. Decl. ¶ 9. 9 **CONCLUSION** 10 Slater respectfully requests that the Court enter an order terminating its representation of Plaintiff and allowing Plaintiff 30 days to retain new counsel. 11 12 Dated: January 13, 2025 Respectfully submitted, 13 14 By: /s/ Lauren Welling Lauren Welling (CA State Bar No. 291813) 15 LWelling@sssfirm.com 16 Michael W. Carney (CA State Bar No. 241564) MCarney@sssfirm.com SLATER SLATER SCHULMAN LLP 17 8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 255 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 18 Telephone: (310) 341-2086 Facsimile: (310) 773-5573 19 20 Counsel for Plaintiff 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

EXHIBIT A

Casase2**3:24**de03**05766:RB**B Dobbocoueme12333-9-8 Fife1e10102/3/0/25 Parage(29)fof 18

- 4. Under the California Rules of Professional Conduct 1.16(d), our office has taken all reasonably available steps to avoid prejudice to the rights of Plaintiff.
 - a. Throughout the course of our representation of Plaintiff since she had retained our office on October 15, 2021, she has been minimally responsive with only two (2) communications over the course of over three years, before ceasing communication altogether on June 22, 2023.
 - b. Before and throughout the time period described below since service of her Plaintiff Fact Sheet was due, Plaintiff received numerous letters, emails, text messages, telephone calls, and voice messages requesting that she contact our office. These communications included 16 unsuccessful phone calls with voice messages or where voice messages could not be left, 17 emails, two letters, and 11 text messages. In these communications, our office repeatedly explained the need for her continued participation in the case, the risk that her case may be dismissed, and that our office would need to withdraw as counsel if she did not contact our office.
 - c. In advance of the Plaintiff Fact Sheet deadline in her case, our office mailed Plaintiff a blank Plaintiff Fact Sheet and notified Plaintiff by telephone calls, emails, text messages, voice messages, and letters that we required input from her to complete her Plaintiff Fact Sheet but our office did not receive the requested information from her in advance of the deadline.
 - d. On September 23, 2024, having been unable to obtain sufficient information about Plaintiff's case, our office submitted a Plaintiff Fact Sheet on Plaintiff's behalf to avoid prejudice to her but could not complete the Plaintiff Fact Sheet without input from Plaintiff, resulting in numerous deficiencies. Our office notified Plaintiff by telephone call, email, text message, and letter that we needed input from her to correct the Plaintiff Fact Sheet deficiencies to avoid dismissal of her case but Plaintiff was unresponsive to our regular communication

attempts.

- e. Since September 23, 2024, all telephone calls to Plaintiff were directed straight to voicemail or indicated the telephone number was out of service and her voicemail box was inoperable.
- f. On November 19, 2024, our office communicated with counsel for Defendants via electronic mail of our intention to respond to Defendants deficiency letter regarding Plaintiff after speaking with her.
- g. On December 24, 2024, our office received a return to sender notification of our December 6, 2024 correspondence.
- h. Since September 23, 2024, our office sent electronic mail messages to Plaintiff on September 23, 2024, September 26, 2024, October 18, 2024, November 11, 2024, December 2, 2024, December 6, 2024, December 10, 2024, December 13, 2024, December 20, 2024, December 30, 2024, January 3, 2025, January 7, 2025 and January 10, 2025.
- i. On December 13, 2024, December 30, 2024, January 3, 2025, January 7, 2025 and January 10, 2025, our office sent electronic mail messages to Plaintiff explaining that if she did not contact us immediately, we would take steps to withdraw as counsel; these communications offered Plaintiff a deadline by which to contact our office.
- Plaintiff did not respond to any of these communications and her telephone number went straight to voicemail.
- 5. During this time period, our office communicated with Defendants about the deficiencies in Plaintiff's Plaintiff Fact Sheet.
- 6. On December 20, 2024, our office and I had a meet and confer call with counsel for Defendants and conveyed our intention to withdraw from Plaintiff's representation.
- 7. To date, Plaintiff has not agreed to voluntarily dismiss her claims and has not informed our office that alternative counsel has been retained.

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EXHIBIT B

HON. CHARLES R. BREYER United States District Court Judge

[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

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counsel appears on her behalf.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: _____

EXHIBIT 2

Northern District of California

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC., PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT LITIGATION

MDL No. 3084

This Order Relates To:

See Attachment

ORDER GRANTING MOTIONS TO WITHDRAW

Re: Dkt. Nos. 2045, 2055, 2056, 2062, 2066, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2081

The above captioned motions to withdraw are granted. Within 28 days of this order, each plaintiff shall file a notice indicating whether they intend to pursue the action with new counsel or representing themselves. If any plaintiff does not file that notice, the Court will dismiss their case without prejudice.

Uber's counsel shall provide a copy of this order to the plaintiffs and file a declaration within 7 days of this ruling explaining how they did so.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: February 3, 2025



United States District Judge

ATTACHMENT

This Order relates to:

C.C. vs. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-05962-CRB

L.D. v. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-05306-CRB

J.H. v. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-03441-CRB

C.H. vs. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-04363-CRB

R.D. v. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-05393-CRB

J.K. v. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-05463-CRB

M.P. v. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-05688-CRB

T.F. v. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-05768-CRB

A.O. v. Uber, Inc.,

Case No. 3:24-cv-05717-CRB